

PARK & RECREATION MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2005
6:30 P.M.

Call To Order: The Park and Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 W. 15th Street, Rushville. President Denny Corn called the meeting to order. Members present were David Hasecuster, Jan Voiles, Wilma Jo Kile, Jack Harmon and Tim Shuppert. Others present were Parks Director Danny Mathews, Attorney Julie Newhouse, Secretary Carla Sharpe, Mayor Bridges, Pool Manager Anita Carfield and Assistant Pool Manager Jean Kopf, Skateboarder Brady Wright and Park Restaurant Manager Larry Conover.

Minutes: Minutes of April 12, 2005 was presented for approval. Shuppert moved to approve the minutes for April 12th. Hasecuster seconded. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

Reports: Pool Manager Carfield shared with the board that all employees have reported in and signed their paperwork for the upcoming season. The swimsuits have been ordered along with lanyards, whistles, 2 rescue tubes and 6 guard hip packs to replace some worn ones. Still working on scheduling. Jean and I are planning on a work day on May 21 with a rain date as May 26. We will be making some trips to Sam's Club after school is out to get supplies and food for the concession's stand.

We plan to begin scheduling evening swim lessons soon. Anyone interested in lessons should call the pool and leave a message along with an evening phone number so we can call them back to schedule a time. The pool number is 932-7100. The dates for these lessons will be the weeks of June 6-20 and June 13-17 from 6:30 – 8:00 P.M. Morning swim lessons will be July 5 – 8 and July 11 -15. We'll begin scheduling the morning lessons after the pool opens. We have set the date for Raymond Gibson Day as Sunday, July 24.

We now have 3 pool parties scheduled for the upcoming season.

Since we will be opening in a little less than a month, we would like to encourage patrons to enjoy this wonderful facility. We would like to remind patrons that for the first time in at least 5 years our prices will be increasing. A season pass this year will be \$50 for a child, \$75 for an adult, and \$100 for a family pass. Daily prices will be \$2 for a child and \$3 for an adult. Pool parties will be \$150.00

We would also like to remind parents that the phone is for business and emergencies only. Please make arrangements with your child for a pickup time prior to leaving them at the pool. If calling the pool, please be prepared to leave a message. We will gladly pass the message on to your child provided they have not left the premises. This will allow our phone lines to be free for business use and emergencies. We appreciate your support in this matter. We are looking forward to a wonderful season and hope to see many of you at the pool this summer.

Sharpe then reported that the Mayor's Office received a phone call today from Paul Barada Jr. of Rush County Victims Assistance requesting the Parks Department allow their group to hold a "Swim with Your Dog Day" the last day the pool is open. Sharpe informed the board the group will do the clean up afterwards. This has taken place in other towns.

The board decided that this is probably a good thing to do but had some stipulations such as brushing your dog before it enters the pool and cleaning up after the dog in case of an accident. Sharpe will invite Mr. Barada to the next meeting on June 14 to get more questions answered.

Mathews stated he has installed four new porch swings throughout the parks.

Mathews had Quality Coating come in and take care of a few cracks. It did need some attention and they finished up last Friday.

Bruce Davis has repaired the mushroom at the pool. He has been a big help to the Parks Department and only had a cost for materials of \$25-\$30. Davis has also moved a bridge for us, hauled benches and Mathews would just like to personally thank Davis and make him a "Friend of the Park" as he really appreciates all that he does for the Parks Department.

The pool is being filled as we speak. B. C. Water Management will hook up the new system this Friday and by tomorrow it will be filled. Everything looks good. He will take a water sample to the State lab by next Wednesday.

Mathews stated he has been very busy and has been fortunate to have two inmates doing community service for the Parks Department. They have helped in so many ways. He has had them for three months now and has saved the Parks Department \$3 – \$5 thousand dollars in labor.

Mathews stated he has appreciated working with the County.

Reminded everyone that Relay for Life is coming up.

Park & Rec Minutes 5-10-2005

Page Two

Claims Approval: Reviewed prior to meeting by Shuppert and Kile. Kile moved to approve the claims for the month. Shuppert seconded. Motion carried. Claims approved.

Unfinished Business: Update on Horseshoe Court Fencing – Bob Sheppard has been working very hard and has been very dedicated to raising money for a new fence at the horseshoe courts. He has raised \$2,200 and is still \$600 to \$700 short to finish up the project. He has also formed a horseshoe pitching league. Mathews feels that since Sheppard has worked so hard and raised the money he has and is still short \$600-\$700 he asked the Parks Board to help finish out the remaining \$600-\$700. Shuppert moved to kick in the remaining money for the fencing of the horseshoe court not to exceed \$700.00. Kile seconded. Motion carried.

Larry Conover was present to present the Parks Board \$300.00 that was raised in his restaurant to defer the cost of vandalism that happened at the gazebo. They placed a bucket at the register and collected money. The board thanked Conover for his generous donation.

Conover also presented the board with a basic drawing for adding onto the Park Restaurant. This will be a 20 x 30 extra dining area outside. They are also needing extra freezer space and will be adding room for that. Some day he would like to put a porch on the street side.

Conover then requested this board to put down curbs in front of his building.

Is a bit scary as he worries about people driving through the building. Mathews will get a hold of the Street Department for that.

Kile moved to allow Conover to put a patio on the back of the Park Restaurant and put a freezer room on the north end. Hasecuster seconded. Motion carried. Newhouse informed Conover that he needed to go before the City Council too with this request.

Mathews then thanked Conover for all his help.

Review Master Plan – (Survey) – Sharpe shared with the board the questions she had put on the survey and asked if there were any additions or corrections. The board felt this was fine, make it simple and to go with it.

Hasecuster stated he will have a booth at the fair for his business and that we can set at his booth and distribute the survey's there.

Sharpe will prepare surveys.

New Business: Hire Summer Employees – Mathews asked permission to hire Bobby Woods, Darrin Kessler and Patrick Hunter as Laborers in the park at \$6.50 an hour and Kathy Brown to work with flowers.

Newhouse asked if these salaries are part of the salary ordinance. Mathews stated yes.

Voiles moved to hire the above mentioned employees. Shuppert seconded. Motion carried.

Mathews stated that Kessler just got out of college and is in hopes of getting him to start as soon as possible.

Mathews stated that Courtney Cameron started on Monday and is already doing a great job.

Discuss Use of Booker T. Center for Relay for Life Function – A lady called the Mayor's Office and wanted to use Booker T. for babysitting to raise money for Relay for Life but called today and cancelled the event. No action taken.

Discuss Use of Amphitheater for Church Use (Worship Service and Pitch-In) – The board decided to leave the rent at \$150 per event with a \$100 damage deposit.

Skateboard Park Request – Skateboarder Brady Wright was present to request more ramps made of concrete be placed in the skateboard park. He presented the board with drawings of the items he would like to have in the park. Wright said there are four things that you find on the street that the kids are looking for in a park, those being: steps, rails, curbs and handicap ramps. Kids also like to slide on curbs. They wax curbs using candle wax which makes the boards slide across them easier. He got a quote of \$33.00 a piece for curbs at Shelby Gravel.

He would also like some benches but according to the new Skateboard Ordinance that would not be allowed. By putting metal squares on the picnic tables kids can grind on them and also set on them too.

Mathews stated they are also using benches for bike ramps.

Mathews said he don't see a reason why they have to use tables. We have to re-build them due to the destruction.

Mathews said he's just not for that.

Harmon stated the ordinance is much needed as things were getting out of control on the streets. Thinks this is a fabulous idea. The ordinance is very much needed and is a good thing for the City but at the same time let’s talk about your proposed ideas. He commended Wright on what he’s proposed but however the picnic table idea would be in direct violation of this ordinance.

Bridges stated he feels if kids see grinding on benches and picnic tables at the skateboard park then they will do it in the other parks.

Wright said if they put skatelite on them the kids will know they are only allowed to use them in the skateboard park.

Shuppert suggested making the tables they can skate on different.

Harmon recommended building a box instead of using picnic tables.

Wright stated that all three ramps would cost between \$2,000 - \$2,500.

Voiles stated she feels we should give them one new piece and see how it is treated and then add more if they can prove they will take care of it.

Voiles stated we want them to be safe, we want the kids to have a good time but we want the community to be happy.

Corn stated that one project is not bad but the kids don’t take care of what they have.

One project is all that he would want to do.

Wright stated if kids had more to do he feels they wouldn’t destruct.

Harmon said an ordinance has been put into place to resolve some issues in the city and at the same point in time will take some of the skateboard off the streets and he thinks we need to offer to help the alternative. He feels we have a responsibility to do something in the skateboard park.

Wright said he also got an estimate of \$7,000 to pave the skateboard park.

Wright also requested a path from the parking area to the skateboard park so when they walk from their cars to the park they won’t get mud on their shoes and carry it into the park as mud tears up the grip tape on the skateboards.

Hasecuster suggested a rock path.

Mathews stated that a 5 foot gravel path would probably run around \$2,500.

Hasecuster stated he liked Project B and would be willing to buy 3-4 curbs, build a couple of boxes and put in a walkway of stone for now. If no problems , then look at Project B for next year.

Mathews stated he could cut the existing boxes down now to make them to the kids liking.

Kile moved to get 3-4 new curbs and build a box or two and get a platform for under the pop machine. Voiles seconded. Motion carried.

Wright said he is willing to help build the new ramps.

Mathews will look into the path and call Wright when they are ready to build on a rainy day.

There being no further business, Kile moved to adjourn. Voiles seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

DENNY CORN, PRESIDENT

JACK HARMON, VICE PRESIDENT

TIM SHUPPERT, MEMBER

WILMA JO KILE, MEMBER

JAN VOILES, MEMBER

DAVID HASECUSTER, MEMBER

ATTEST:

CARLA SHARPE, SECRETARY